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HOUSE BILL 582

46TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2003

INTRODUCED BY

Gail C. Beam

AN ACT

**RELATING TO CORRECTIONS; CREATING A TASK FORCE TO EXAMINE
ISSUES REGARDING THE INCARCERATION OF FEMALE INMATES, CONDUCT A
STUDY AND PROVIDE TRAINING; MAKING AN APPROPRIATION.**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

**Section 1. TEMPORARY PROVISION--CORRECTIONS TASK FORCE--
MEMBERSHIP--PURPOSE--REPORT. --**

**A. The secretary of corrections shall develop a
task force to examine issues regarding the incarceration of
female inmates, to conduct studies and to provide training.**

The task force shall consist of:

**(1) the warden of the women's correctional
facility in Grants;**

**(2) a representative of the corrections
corporation of America;**

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1 (3) a representative of the women's justice
2 project, incorporated;

3 (4) a representative of the public defender
4 department;

5 (5) a district court judge;

6 (6) a representative of the office of health
7 services in the corrections department;

8 (7) a representative of the classification
9 office in the corrections department;

10 (8) the division director for probation and
11 parole in the corrections department; and

12 (9) the mental health director of the women's
13 correctional facility in Grants.

14 B. The secretary of corrections shall designate a
15 chair for the task force. Members of the task force may be
16 reimbursed for per diem, mileage and expenses as provided in
17 the Per Diem and Mileage Act by filing vouchers with the
18 corrections department or with their own respective department.

19 C. The task force shall assess and evaluate:

20 (1) the classification system for female
21 inmates and the use of gender-based criteria and needs
22 assessments;

23 (2) the policies and procedures pertaining to
24 sexual assault and harassment issues in the women's prison;

25 (3) the adequacy of medical services and

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1 gender needs;

2 (4) the adequacy of mental health and
3 substance abuse and addiction treatment services;

4 (5) practices, policies and procedures for
5 reintegration and community reentry, both in the prison and as
6 part of parole; and

7 (6) gender-based differences in the use of
8 discipline and administrative segregation.

9 D. The task force shall provide training on gender-
10 based corrections issues for criminal justice system
11 professionals, stakeholders and for others who may request the
12 training.

13 E. The task force shall update the recidivism study
14 conducted in 2001 and present the study to the house and senate
15 judiciary committees.

16 F. The task force may contract with outside experts
17 and specialists to conduct the studies, evaluations and
18 training set forth in this section.

19 G. Staff for the task force shall be provided by
20 the corrections department.

21 H. The task force shall present a report to the
22 interim legislative committee on corrections oversight no later
23 than November 2003.

24 Section 2. APPROPRIATION.-- Fifty thousand dollars
25 (\$50,000) is appropriated from the tobacco settlement program

. 143771. 1

1 fund to the corrections department for expenditure in fiscal
2 year 2004 to support the work of the task force. Any
3 unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of
4 fiscal year 2004 shall revert to the tobacco settlement program
5 fund.

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